



Community News Update

15 July 2020

Dear Downtown Residents,

While the effects on our lives of COVID-19 have been all-consuming and it seems as though we are in a state of suspended animation at times—we still have to prepare for the future. The future of the City of Sarasota is in our hands. The City Commission primary election is on **August 18th**. That will determine who will make the cut for the final election on **November 3rd**.



At our July 1st monthly meeting, **Supervisor of Elections Ron Turner** spoke with DSCA members about the upcoming elections. You can view that discussion here:

<https://youtu.be/9Wrrnoueb-4>

Important dates to remember:**August 8 — last day you can request a Vote By Mail ballot.****August 8 to August 16 — early voting 8:30am to 4:30pm****August 18 — Primary Election Day**

A Vote By Mail ballot can be requested at www.SarasotaVotes.com/VotebyMail or by calling 941-861-8618. **TAKE NOTE:** Vote By Mail ballots cannot be forwarded-- so if you need your ballots mailed to a different address than you are registered under, you must indicate that in your ballot request. As of July 14th, 111,380 people had requested Vote By Mail ballots—more than the total number of people who voted by any means in both the 2016 and 2018 primary elections.

Three seats of the 5-member City Commission will be determined in November. District 2 (D2) represents the area DSCA represents—the City's downtown. (D2 is also comprised of portions of the Rosemary District, the barrier islands of Bird Key, Lido, St. Armand's, Coon Key and a portion of Longboat. In addition, D2 represents the area west of 41 from University to Bee Ridge and some areas east of 41.) The person chosen to represent us will have a significant and powerful voice in running the City of Sarasota. In an effort to help our members make an informed choice, DSCA co-hosted (along with the Downtown Sarasota Alliance) a candidate debate for the six D2 candidates. You can view a **video of the D2 candidate debate** here:

https://youtu.be/KMjFw_a5whI



Sarasota Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch was also a guest at our July 1 Board meeting. She was anxious to update us on the mask requirements for the City. You can view the mayor's appearance at:
https://youtu.be/iLAD_zD9VbQ

For answers to frequently asked questions about mask requirements:
<https://www.sarasotafl.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=5969>



We hope that all member associations in DSCA's network will forward these Community News Update emails directly to all of their residents. All recipients should feel free to forward it to others as well.

The Downtown Sarasota Condo Association is composed of resident volunteers who live and work in downtown Sarasota, along with the many and associated businesses who support our condos. We are your neighbors, your friends, your link to City government. Please help us convey your questions and concerns to those in office. We also want to pass on your suggestions for weathering this shelter-in-place period in a downtown high-rise with discussions about what has worked for you ... and what has not.

With all best wishes for your continued good health,

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We Are Downtown Sarasota – Residential Neighborhood



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